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attention of the Government is drawn by the Administrative Officers steps are being taken to advise them, e.g., the Tiruchirappalli Collector wanted these regulations to be notified and I am sure the same regulations will be introduced in all other administrative areas merged with the Madras Province.''

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—'' Do the regulations of the Sandur State apply now or the Indian Union law that applies to the State after the merger? ''

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—'' The Collector of Bellary is in charge of the administration and whenever we get a report from the Collector of Bellary we take the necessary action. It is first of all the responsibility of the Collector of Bellary and whenever he wants administrative advice or help from the Provincial Government we always give it to the Collector. If the effect of the merger is true it is not beyond the powers of the Collector.''

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—'' Are any conditions attached to the merger, Sir? ''

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—'' No, Sir.''

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—'' Has there been trouble from the former rulers of these States in the smooth administration of these States? ''

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—'' No, Sir. Not that the Government are aware of.''

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—'' Do the former employees of the States have the status of servants of this Government? ''

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—'' That will naturally follow.''

Coupons for paddy and rice.

* 71 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number and value of coupons issued for paddy and rice delivered between the 1st December 1946 and 6th December 1947 ;

(*b*) whether the whole or part of the bonus is to be paid in cash or kind ;

(*c*) if a portion of the bonus is to be paid in kind, what form or forms such bonus in kind has been paid or is proposed to be paid ;

(*d*) if it is proposed to pay the bonus in the shape of manures, what the quantity of manures required is towards this payment ;

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(*e*) what are the quantities of manures of different kinds available or procured for payment towards bonus;

(*f*) whether, in case sufficient quantities of manures are not available, it is proposed to make payment in cash; and

(*g*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement about the payment of bonus, manurial position, etc.?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) Number of coupons issued—6,536218. Value of coupons issued—Rupees 2,32,78,301.

" (*b*) One-half of the bonus is to be paid in cash and the remaining half in kind.

" (*c*) The bonus in kind is paid in the form of manures such as :—

(i) groundnut cake;

(ii) chemical fertilizers, such as ammonium sulphate, ammonium phosphate, super-phosphate and bonemeal; and

(iii) green manure seeds.

" (*d*) Under the bonus scheme, about Rs. 3·04 crores worth of manures will be required for payment of the manure-part of the bonus. If groundnut cake, which alone is reported to be in great demand, is to be supplied against all the bonus coupons, about 2·25 lakhs of tons of groundnut cake will be required. But in practice not only groundnut cake but also chemical fertilizers and green manure seeds are exchanged for the bonus coupons. The quantity of these manures required will therefore depend upon the demand and the price of these manures.

" (*e*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

" (*f*) Yes. The Government have decided to supply manures or pay cash in exchange for bonus coupons according to the requirements of the producers and necessary orders in this regard have been issued.

" (*g*) A statement is placed on the table of the House."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" From the statement placed on the table of the House, it is seen that the balance of the value of coupons of Rs. 2·27 crores remains to be honoured. Is it the intention of the Government to pay this in cash?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The intention is to pay in terms of manure as far as possible and as far as manures are available. But Government do not want to hold up a promise and so they are now paying cash in lieu of manures."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 172–173 infra.